

NEW CHRISTIAN'S CHURCH, COLUMBIA, SC

Church  
mortals  
mortals

souls  
piked  
on a  
wooden  
cross  
  
Jesus  
in red  
stained

NEW YORK SEPTEMBER IN SNOW

a  
rare  
plop  
of  
snow  
fall  
  
a  
single  
petunia

stands  
pert  
in  
defiance

— Alan P. Akmakjian

Cupertino CA

SPLIT

between the amaryllis catching a shaft  
of sunlight under a canopy of trees

and the cut flower in a vase with leaves  
decorating a table — I would let it stay

in the sun even as sunlight moves away  
from its darkening yellow but a friend clips

the stem at its base and takes it twirling with  
him home to his kitchen table and a wife

I too could love — in fact I loved his wife  
last night despite the children scrambling

to catch us in the act and I did not bring  
flowers for her although what she offers us

is a kind of flower — she wants both of us  
at the same time and I gently tell her no



for the same reason I left the bloom alone  
knowing that this blossoming would not last.

#### THEY DANCE

and that means she leads with her left foot

then says talk to me and of course he  
never knows what to say as her shoe

shifts a little to make him stumble

but he catches himself and plants both  
feet against the dance so he can speak

to tell her he doesn't understand

why she so often lands on his toe  
and when he winces she says you don't

love me enough but he tells her he

does everything he can as she spins  
out of the way of his reaching hand

let's do it again she says and smiles

but he cannot dance when dance is  
trying to anticipate her moves.

— William Weitz

Houston TX

#### MALAISEVILLE

went to  
two thrift stores  
bought a book  
at each one  
got same  
bus driver  
returning

#### RADIO LADY

with a  
voice like that  
she must be  
too juvenile for  
me but one  
can't help entertaining  
the possibilities

— Les Cammer

Santa Barbara CA